

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-13 DHA-02 SSM-03 IGA-02
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5935
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3021

E.9. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, US, IS
SUBJECT: OPERATIONS OF U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

REF: STATE 95673

1. IN CALL ON EVRON APRIL 29 I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT RECENT DIFFICULTIES INHIBITING VOLAG OPERATIONS COULD BE SMOOTHED OVER, AND THAT US MESRF-FUNDED VOLAG ACTIVITIES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE AS "INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY" WITH "INFORMAL LIAISON WITH THE GOI." AFTER EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE THAT EVRON WOULD HAVE A BROADER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL AND CONGRESSIONAL CONTEXT SURROUNDING THIS WHOLE ISSUE, I MADE THE OTHER POINTS IN EFTEL AND SUGGESTED THAT WE DISCUSS THE SUBJECT AGAIN AFTER HE HAD LOOKED INTO IT.

2. EVRON ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANYTHING SPECIFIC WHICH HAD BROUGHT ABOUT THIS APPROACH. HE CONSIDERED THE ANERA BROCHURE ISSUE AS SETTLED ("AFTER MY TALK WITH ROY"), AND WAS CURIOUS AS TO WHAT HAD PROMPTED OUR INITIATIVE. I NOTED THAT, IN ADDITION TO DIFFICULTY CDF IS HAVING WITH MSW IN GAZA, THE ANERA FLARE-UP HAD TRIGGERED AND MFA
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STUDY ON THE ROLE OF THE VOLAGS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. I HOPED THAT THIS STUDY WOULD NOT LEAD THE GOI TO ADOPT MORE RIGID POSITIONS WHICH MIGHT CAUSE BILATERAL PROBLEMS, AND HOPED HE WOULD KEEP A POLITICAL EYE ON THE ISSUE.

3. EVRON EXPLAINED THAT THE RECENT CHANGE IN HIS ASSIGN-

MENT HAD PREVENTED HIM FROM BEING CURRENT ON THIS SUBJECT. NONETHELESS, HE DID WANT TO MAKE THE POINT THAT THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WERE A SENSITIVE SUBJECT, AND THAT SOMETIMES THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THE VOLAG HEADQUARTERS WERE NOT CARRIED OUT IN THE SAME SPIRIT BY THEIR LOCAL PEOPLE ON THE SPOT. MOREOVER, THE GOI SIMPLY COULD NOT CONCEDE THAT IT DOES NOT EXIST IN THE TERRITORIES, AND THAT FOREIGN BODIES -- HOWEVER WELL INTENTIONED -- COULD OPERATE WITHOUT REGARD FOR THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE TERRITORIES FALLS ON THE GOI, AND VOLAGE ACTIVITY MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK SET BY THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL GOI REPRESENTATIVES. EVRON SEIZED ON MY USE OF THE PHRASE "INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY" AND SAID THAT THIS REQUEST WAS PROBLEMATIC AND NOT PROPER. SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS HAD TO BE INTEGRATED IN ORDER TO BENEFIT THE POPULATION, AND VOLAG COORDINATION WITH THE GOI WOULD HAVE TO BE MORE THAN JUST INFORMAL.

4. IN CLOSING, EVRON SAID THE GOI WAS NOT LOOKING FOR FRICTION, AND THAT IT UNDERSTOOD THE CONGRESSIONAL AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS VERY WELL. HE PROMISED TO CONTACT THE RELEVANT GOI AGENCIES, AND TO PROVIDE A RESPONSE SOON.

5.COMMENT: EVRON HAD LATELY BEEN PREOCCUPIED WITH WEIGHTIER CONCERNS, AND WAS CLEARLY UNAWARE THAT THERE WERE ANY NEW PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE VOLAGS. HE ALSO

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DID NOT SEEM PARTICULARLY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT GONNEN'S STUDY, OR THE KEY ROLE THE MSW PLAYS IN THIS AREA. NONETHELESS, (AND UNFORTUNATELY), HIS EMHATIC REJECTION OF THE "INDEPENDENCE" OF THE VOLAGS IS LIKELY TO BLEND WELL WITH THE MSW'S CURRENT STANCE. DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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